

# **SELF-DIRECTED SERVICES PROGRAM**

Provided By:

The California Department of  
Developmental Services



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# What Does the Self-Directed Services Program Provide?



- Will enhance the ability of participant/family to control the decisions and resources required to meet their needs.
- Participant arranges and buys supports that he/she needs as identified in his/her Individual Program Plan.

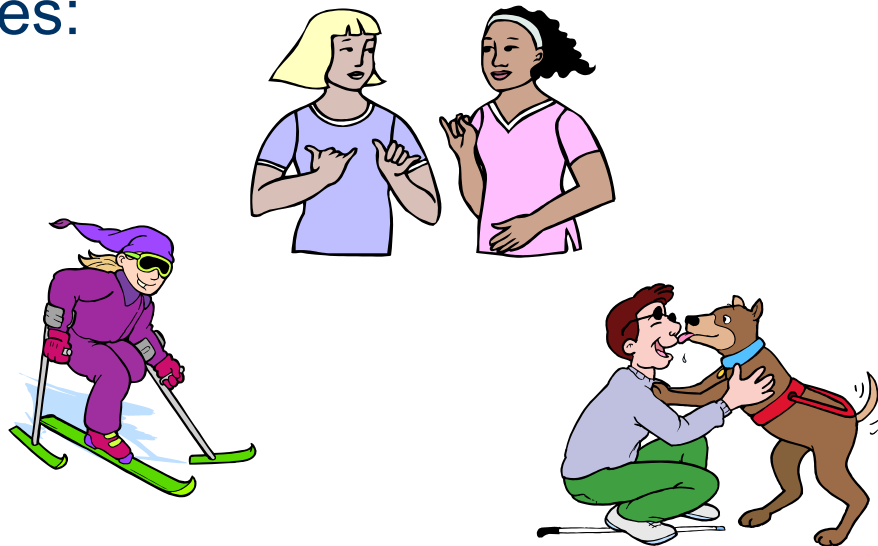


# Self-Directed Services Principles

Self-Directed (SD) Services is guided by the vision that people with disabilities will determine their own futures, with the support of families, friends, and professionals.

Based on five principles:

- Freedom
- Authority
- Support
- Responsibility
- Confirmation



# Self-Directed Services Principles

- Freedom –  
Ability for individuals to plan a life and customize the purchase of needed resource and services.
- Authority –  
The ability to control a certain sum of dollars in order to purchase necessary supports.



# Self-Directed Services Principles

- Support –



The arranging of resources and personnel—both formal and informal that will assist an individual with a disability to reside within the community.

- Responsibility –



To accept a valued role in the community and to be accountable for spending public dollars that are life enhancing.

- Confirmation –



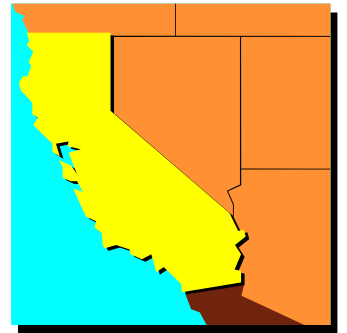
To recognize the importance of leadership of self-advocates in the SD Services Program.

# Pilot Projects

The California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has five Self-Determination pilot projects:

- Tri-Counties Regional Center and Area Board IX
- Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center and Area Board X
- Redwood Coast Regional Center and Area Board I
- Kern Regional Center and Area Board XII
- San Diego Regional Center and Area Board XIII

January 1, 2006, DDS is providing a new program that will be called Self-Directed (SD) Services.



# Pilot Projects



## Program success as reported by pilot participants:



- Improved relationship with family members.
- More positive interactions with other people.
- Increased involvement and interaction in their community.
- High consumer satisfaction.
- Families and participants are responsible stewards of public funds.

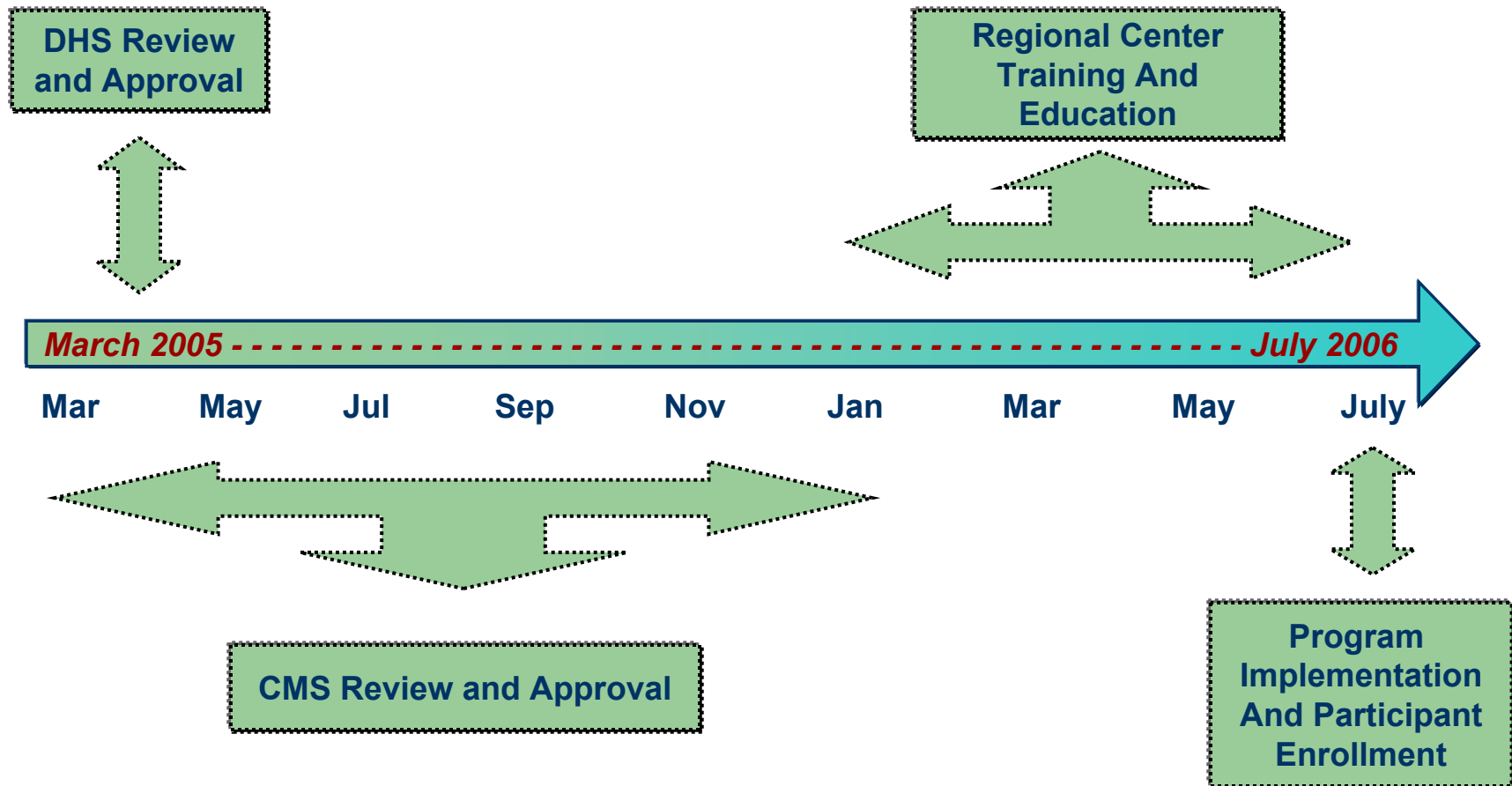


# Independence Plus Waiver

- DDS will offer SD Services contingent on the approval of a federal waiver; the 1915c Independence Plus (IP) Waiver.
- This IP Waiver is the federally funded Self-Directed Waiver of the Self-Directed Services Program.
- CMS developed the IP Waiver templates for states offering SD Services and seeking federal fund participation (FFP).



# Independence Plus Waiver



# Program Eligibility



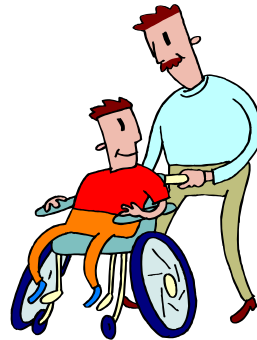
- Individuals do not have to meet Medi-Cal eligibility and level of care requirements in order to participate in the SD program. The program will include both state general fund and federal funding.



- Everyone has access to the same services and all services can be billed to the SD Waiver.
- General funds will be available for individuals who are not SD Waiver eligible.

# Enrollment Criteria

- Be a regional center client
- Not reside in a licensed residential services facility
- Receive services in “non-congregate” settings only



- Be age 3 or older
- Must volunteer to participate
- Willing to live within the individual budget amount

# Enrollment Criteria

Willing to:

- Attend an in-depth orientation to the SD Services Program.
- Agree to purchase services within the SD Program.



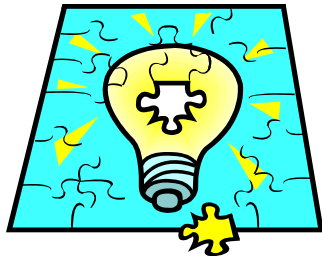
- Accept the individual budget amount.
- Employ or “designate” a Financial Management Services entity.
- Employ or “designate” an individual to provide Supports Brokerage Services.

# Person-Centered Planning

- The Person-Centered Planning process will drive the development of the Individual Program Plan.
- The participant will direct the PCP process, with support from the Supports Broker, a regional center representative, and “PCP Team” (made up of family, friends and professionals).



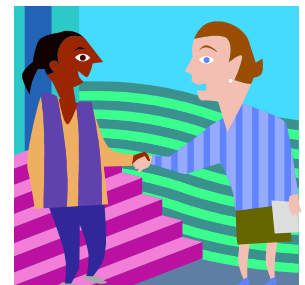
# Individual Program Plan



- An IPP review will be done every twelve months (minimum) or whenever there is significant change in the person's life circumstances, and must be agreed upon by the participant and the Service Coordinator.
- Details the needs, preferences, and hopes and dreams of the individual.
- Includes WHO does WHAT by WHEN.
- Specifies the amount of the Individual Budget.

# Participant Training and Information Supports

- Individuals who join the SD Services Program will receive an orientation and training that will include:
- Training on the values, principles, and philosophy of SD Services.
- Employer training, hiring, supervising, managing, and evaluating service providers.
- Other training includes mandatory and special incident reporting, legal rights, and self-advocacy.



# Regional Centers' Training and Information Supports

Training will be available to regional centers regarding:

- Values, principles, and philosophy of SD Services
- Allowable Services
- Development of Individual Budget
- Regulatory requirements



# Individual Budget



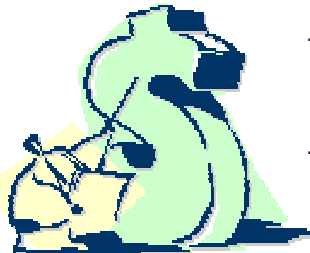
- Each participant will have an individual budget to purchase services and supports to meet the goals and objectives in his/her IPP.
- Defines a set amount of money available.
- Is based on a fair and equitable process that takes into account individual functional skills, demographic characteristics, and needs.
- Based on average costs of regional center consumers with like characteristics and needs.

# Type of Services

Flexibility to move money within service categories in the budget.

- Community Living

- Respite Services
- Support Brokerage
- Financial Management Services – Bill payer
- Financial Management Services – Employer of Record
- Family Assistance and Support
- Housing Access Supports
- Community Living Supports
- Advocacy Services
- Participant-Designed Goods and Services



- Health and Clinical Services

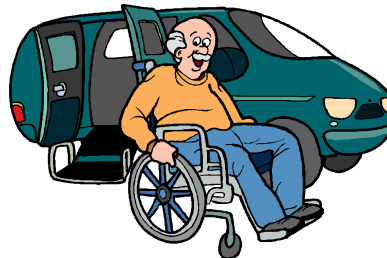
- Home Health Aide Services
- Skilled Nursing
- Integrative Therapies
- Communication Support
- Crisis Intervention
- Nutritional Consultation
- Behavior Intervention Services
- Specialized Therapeutic Services
- Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies

# Type of Services

- Employment
  - Supported Employment
  - Pre-Vocational Services
- Training and Education
  - Individual Training and Education
  - Training and Education Transition Service



- Environmental and Medical Support
  - Environmental Accessibility Adaptations
  - Personal Emergency Response Systems
- Transportation
  - Transportation
  - Vehicle Adaptations

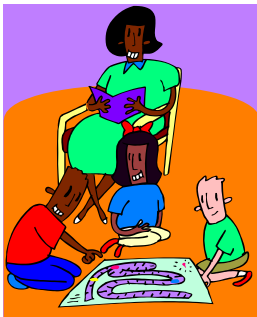


# Risk Pool for Unanticipated Needs

- 5% of the purchase of service funds appropriated for the SD Services program go to the risk pool.
- Funds can be used for unanticipated needs.



# Services Guidelines



- Non-congregate settings.
- Participant directed.
- Use natural supports and generic services first.
- Fit SD Services Program definitions.
- Service providers meet qualifications.

# Supports Brokerage Services

**A participant must hire or designate a Supports Broker of his/her choice.**

**Supports Broker may:**

- Assist the participant to define his/her needs in preparation for the PCP process.
- Identify, coordinate, and access generic resources.
- Assist with soliciting customized and cost-effective services.



# Supports Brokerage Services

## Supports Broker may also:

- Assist participant to negotiate rates and to arrange contracts for services.
- Contribute to the evaluation of the effectiveness of services and supports.

Participants can obtain a list of trained supports brokers from his/her regional center.



# Financial Management Services

**Each participant must hire or designate Financial Management Services (FMS) of his/her choice.**

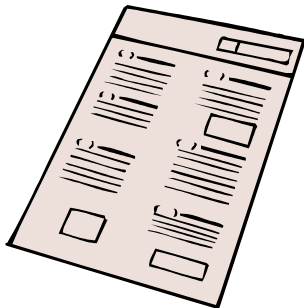
A FMS may:

- Provide payroll and bill payment benefits administration, tax deductions, and record keeping.
- Ensure that service providers meet requirements and complete paperwork.



# Financial Management Services

An FMS:

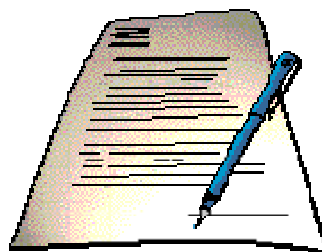


- Initiates criminal background checks, at no cost to the participant.
- Assists the participant to understand billing and employer responsibilities.
- Prepares a monthly budget statement for the participant and the regional center service coordinator.
- Identifies budget categories that are over or under budget.

# Regional Center Services

The Regional Center will:

- Provide SD Services informational meetings to potential participants.
- Conduct required orientation for new enrollees.
- Ensure completion of the SD Services Program eligibility determination and participant agreement.
- Set the foundation for quality services by ensuring that the IPP addresses participant's identified needs.



- Participate and complete the IPP and Individual Budget.
- Monitor IPP implementation and participant satisfaction.
- Provide services in: risk and safety management, technical assistance, and training.

# Regional Center Services

The Regional Center will be responsible for these risk management activities:

- Follow-up special incidents involving the participant, including suspected abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- Respond to participant complaints.



- Assist the participant to access regional center clinical teams when necessary.
- Maintain a 24-hour emergency call line for reporting of suspected abuse/neglect.

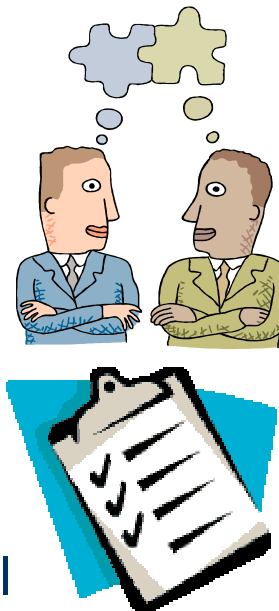
# Participant Protections

- Participant risk and safety considerations, including potential interventions, will be identified in the IPP.
- Emergency back-up plan specified in the IPP.
- IPP modified, as needed, in the event of a critical incident or life endangering situation.
- Safeguards through monitoring activities of the participant's individual budget.
- Provide for fingerprints and criminal background checks as requested by the participant.



# Quality Assurance and Improvement

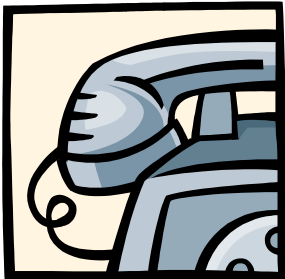
- Includes discovery, remediation, and quality improvement features.
- Verification of provider qualification.
- Participant review/approval of provider invoices.



- Necessary participant protections to assure health and well-being.
- Monitoring of quality of service and participation satisfaction.
- Establishes local and statewide Self-Directed Waiver Quality Improvement Teams.



# More Information



An Individual can get more information about the SD Services Program by visiting the DDS website at:

– [www.dds.ca.gov](http://www.dds.ca.gov)

